

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-9, 10, and 13-17 were rejected under Section 103 over a combination of references including the patent application to Ho.

The application and the cited reference to Ho were, at the time the invention was made, owned by, or subject to an obligation of assignment to, the same person.

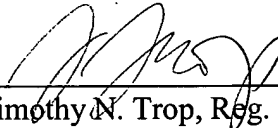
Therefore, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c), the combination of Ho and Ohira cannot be used against the present application. The present application was filed before the Ho application published.

Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/14/05



\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy N. Trop, Reg. No. 28,994  
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.  
8554 Katy Freeway, Ste. 100  
Houston, TX 77024  
713/468-8880 [Phone]  
713/468-8883 [Fax]